

## **POLICE DEPARTMENT**

### **Edward T. O'Leary, Chief of Police**

Police work doesn't look the same as it used to when I started my police career in 1973, at that time it was largely reactive in nature – being called to a crime after it was committed. Our Agency has become more proactive, community centered and more strategic. Officers of your Police Department quietly and effectively prevent crime everyday. Our goal is and always will be to make Foxborough one of the safest Towns in Massachusetts. Although the regional economy is stalling, our calls for service continue to increase. In 2009 Staff members dealt with 16218 direct calls, a 1.5% increase from 2008.

Our community has changed significantly over the past decade. In the 1980's and 90's, Foxborough was primarily a suburban "bedroom community" with limited commercial growth. Over the past four years we have seen significant changes that have created a new set of challenges for the department, and community to deal with. If you took a look back to 1999, you would find the police had 11698 calls for service, investigated 260 part I (serious) crimes, took 652 people into custody and issued 127 criminal summonses. The dispatchers received 2629 E9-1-1 calls, and police investigated 293 serious motor vehicle crashes.

This year 1587 were taken into custody, 401 criminal summons were applied for, dispatchers received 3464 E 9-1-1 calls, investigated 327 serious crashes, and Part I crime was only 257.

## **PATROL OPERATIONS**

The patrol division is the key component of police operations in the community. Four Sergeants and Sixteen Officers are divided into three operational Tours. Staff of this unit provides emergency response to critical incidents; resolve family and neighborhood disputes; provide services to residents; and facilitate the safe and lawful movement of traffic in the community. Your Officers are not just waiting for calls to come in, but are very proactive in conducting field investigations and discovering hazardous conditions that create risk for the community. This assertive, professional approach reduces risk to our community and deters criminal activity. During 2009, Officers responded to 898 burglar alarms; investigated 298 E 9-1-1 hang-ups, managed 145 domestic disputes, investigated 272 hazardous conditions and intervened in 91

intoxicated person events.. Service to the community is a key function of the patrol operation. Officers provided assistance of a wide variety in 1013 calls for service, did 172 vehicle lockouts, provided 27 escorts and handled 79 cases of lost property. Officer John Chamberlin and his canine partner Jada provided backup to officers on the evening tour, and conducted numerous checks of vehicles and buildings for evidence of drug offences. This department issued 248 civil citations for possession of marijuana, and collected over \$20,000 in fine money for the community. Foxborough participates in the Metropolitan Law Enforcement Council Unit, which provides a variety of law enforcement resources to our Town in emergency situations. We are also a partner with other law enforcement groups in the Statewide Law Enforcement Mobilization Plan. A key component of technology this year is the live scan digital finger print system that allows officers booking prisoners to match their fingerprints against both state and federal data bases to verify identity. As of December our Staff received four notifications of arrested parties using false information as to who they were.

## **DISPATCH**

An important element of our community's safety is our Central Dispatch Center. Our community has two dispatch positions covered around the clock; one desk manages police matters, the other fire service. Last year 3464 calls were received via the E 9-1-1 lines, a slight reduction (7%) from 2008. The bulk of our calls come over primary community response lines. The Dispatch Staff handles data entry for information forwarded to them, and assist citizens who walk into the Station seeking help.

## **ARRESTS**

During the past year 1587 individuals were taken into custody for a variety of criminal offenses and for being impaired by alcohol (Protective Custody). Of that number 894 were a result of various Stadium events held during 2009. Of this grouping 228 were for Criminal Offenses and 666 were due to severe alcohol impairment. Patriot games accounted for 358 custodies; Soccer Games (both International and Revolution) resulted in 47 fans in custody; and our five major concerts ended with 489 arrests and Protective Custody cases. Almost every Stadium event custody has its genesis in the abuse of alcohol.

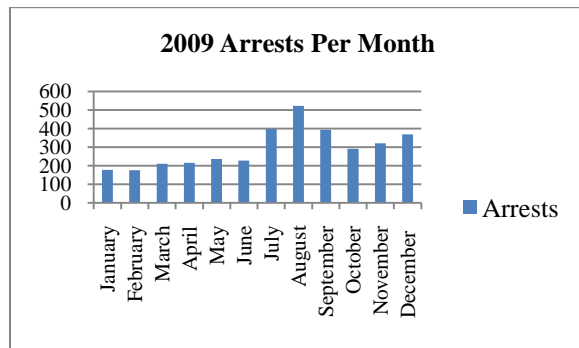
## ADULT

|                                   |                             |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <b>Drug Abuse 46</b>              | <b>Aggravate Assault 13</b> |
| <b>Family Offenses 1</b>          | <b>Simple Assault 63</b>    |
| <b>Driving Under Influence 73</b> | <b>Larceny 12</b>           |
| <b>Liquor Law 175</b>             | <b>Burglary 4</b>           |
| <b>Protective Custody 747</b>     | <b>Financial 13</b>         |
| <b>Disorderly 53</b>              | <b>OTHER 147</b>            |

### JUVENILE (under 18 years of age)

|                            |                              |
|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| <b>Aggravate Assault 3</b> | <b>Liquor Laws 20</b>        |
| <b>Simple Assault 3</b>    | <b>Protective Custody 19</b> |
| <b>Drug Abuse 1</b>        | <b>Disorderly 4</b>          |
| <b>Larceny 1</b>           | <b>OTHER 10</b>              |

These figures are generated by the Uniform Crime Report as established by the FBI. Under Massachusetts Law, people 17 years of age are treated as an adult in Massachusetts; and people arrested on warrants are not considered arrests as part of the tally. Although a protective custody detainee does not go to court (non-criminal) they each have to be processed, reports prepared, telephone calls made as do people taken into custody for criminal arrest. It should also be noted that Officers applied to the court for 401 criminal summonses against individuals that have committed criminal acts. A summons is used for many minor violations or in some cases where an Officer has no right of arrest as he/she did not observe the crime. The Department also issued 248 civil summonses for possession of marijuana of less than 1 oz., as a result of the 2008 general election referendum.

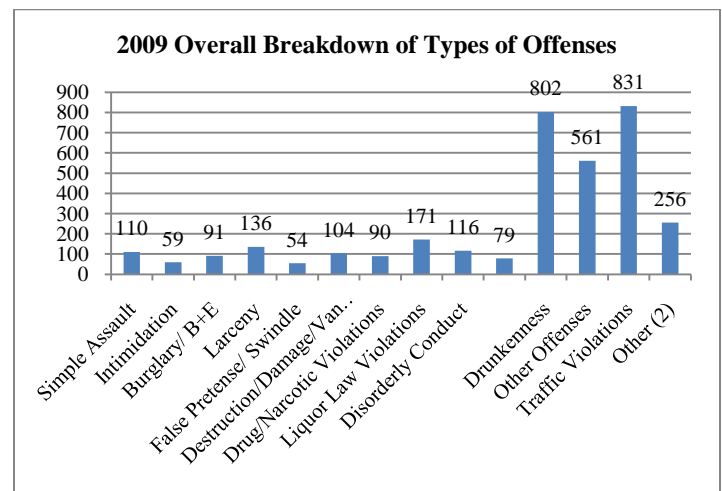


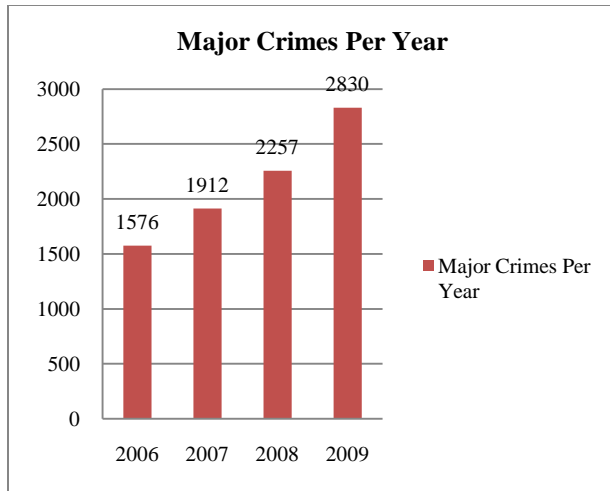
## CRIME REPORT

### FBI UNIFORM CRIME REPORT (UCR)

|               | <b>2009</b> | <b>2008</b> | <b>2007</b> |
|---------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Murder        | 0           | 0           | 1           |
| Rape          | 2           | 6           | 4           |
| Robbery       | 7           | 1           | 2           |
| Assault       | 24          | 35          | 31          |
| Burglary      | 77          | 109         | 72          |
| Larceny       | 141         | 85          | 98          |
| Stolen Cars   | 6           | 14          | 4           |
| <b>TOTALS</b> | <b>257</b>  | <b>253</b>  | <b>209</b>  |

The UCR only collects data on our more significant criminal cases. Over the past decade, many agencies have been using Incident Based Reporting System to get a truer picture of criminal activity in a jurisdiction. In 2009 this Department investigated 2830 various criminal incidents.





## INVESTIGATION

Staff assigned to the Detective Division are responsible for initiating long term investigations into criminal activity, as well as conducting follow-up investigations of complex crimes that are, at first, handled by Staff of the Patrol Division. The Division includes a Sergeant and two Detectives. The Youth Crisis Officer also reports to this Sergeant. Due to the size of the unit, the Sergeant does his own case load as well as coordinating investigative work of others in the unit. Detectives and Patrol Staff work closely in the sharing of information, which often leads to the solution to many crimes. Division members work closely with regional units (NORPAC) and the Staff of the District Attorney's Office. Some key cases investigated included the following:

- Child abuse report (shaken baby) investigated with criminal indictment resulting
- Drug sale investigation led to Attleboro, search warrant and arrests resulted
- Theft at Victoria Secrets (\$3000), working with other communities, suspects identified and warrants issued
- Break-in and vandalism, suspect arrested, plead guilty
- Burglary at 7<sup>th</sup> Day Adventist Church, arrest made resulting in case being solved in Rhode Island
- Worked with Secret Service on counterfeit ring at Stop & Shop

New technology was also introduced so that Detectives can compare fingerprint evidence found at crime scene with prints already on file. Two cases have been cleared using this automated fingerprint system. Due to case complexity and Court requirements, more time is required to develop and conclude investigations.

## COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Our community's success in preventing and responding effectively to crime is dependent on having partnerships with residents and community groups in Foxborough. Residents of Foxborough should be thankful for the efforts of a variety of groups that work with the police and other residents to create a safe environment in our town. In May the Partnership for a Drug Free Foxboro, working with Showcase Cinema, presented a Parent Program featuring Dr. Lonnie Carton. There was a very strong attendance, and children had a choice of seeing two first run movies. Showcase Cinema, Kate Kominsky and Patti Ann Malynn should be thanked for their efforts. We are now working with Stoughton with a mentoring grant so that a revitalized drug prevention coalition can develop a strategic plan for our community to follow. There is no doubt, that alcohol abuse by our teenagers is a significant public safety and public health issue. We have also seen an increase in heroin drug use in our Town, including two overdose deaths.

We also work closely with the Senior Triad. This group meets on a monthly basis to review prevention ideas that are passed on to other senior citizens. The numbers assisted us with the Auto Etching Clinic, as well as with the National Night Out Against Crime in early August. The HUGS Foxboro group is committed volunteers to reduce family violence in Foxborough. During 2009 HUGS sponsored a Self Defense course at Personnel Best Karate, presented an awareness day at the Ahern School, and funded a bullying prevention program at the Burrell School. This department also works closely with the Foxborough Public Schools.

During 2009 safety drills were conducted in each of our elementary schools; and a follow-up drill was conducted at the High School this fall. At the request of school administration, a sweep for drugs was conducted at the High School. During the year the department received a grant from the Safe and Drug Free Program of \$70,000. This funding allowed us to present the following programs in the schools:

- Protecting You/Protecting me curriculum (11/08-1/09) presented to the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grades at the Foxboro Charter School. Presented four approved lesson plans to a total of 220 students.
- Protecting You/Protecting me curriculum (2/09-4/09) presented to the 5<sup>th</sup> grade at the Ahern Middle School. Presented four approved lesson plans to a total of 239 students.
- Protecting You/Protecting me curriculum (4/09-6/09) presented to the 4<sup>th</sup> grade at Taylor, Igo and Burrell schools. Presented four approved lesson plans to a total of 217 students.
- Keeping Safe/911 lesson (4/9/09) presented to kindergarten classes at the Burrell School; total of 60 students.

Other programs were presented throughout the year to various groups such as pre-schools, the YMCA, Cub Scouts and Girl Scouts. The Youth Crisis Officer (Tim O'Leary) also works closely with the Staff of the Norfolk County Juvenile Court to find appropriate programs for juveniles involved in criminal behavior.

### **TRAFFIC SAFETY**

Due to changes in our community, traffic volumes are increasing. This causes congestion at different points of the day, and unfortunately an increase in traffic types of complaints. During the year Officers issued 2024 Traffic citations that included civil infractions as well as written warnings and arrests. Officers responded to 507 reported motor vehicle crashes, in which 327 either had extensive damage to cars or property or resulted in injuries (164). In response to citizen requests, we investigated 99 complaints of speed in neighborhoods and conducted 327 radar assignments (selective enforcement). From analysis of crash data, January and December had the most crashes; and the time period between 2PM and 3PM had the most crashes. The busiest Streets from crashes were: Commercial St; Central St; Mechanic St; and Main Street. There is a community group, Drive 25 Foxboro that has been working with the police and neighborhoods to reduce traffic speeds on side roads. Please think when you drive, and slow down in our neighborhoods. There was also a sharp increase in the number of alcohol impaired drivers arrested this year.

### **STADIUM OPERATIONS**

This year was extremely busy at Gillette Stadium. Along with active Revolution and Patriot schedules, there were other events that provide challenges to the Department. In May there was the NCAA Lacrosse Tournament. Then there were two major soccer events. The Gold Cup took place in July, as well as a major game between two ranked teams from Italy. There were also two concerts in July (AC/DC and Elton John/Billy Joel), the New England Country Music Festival in August, and two nights of U-2 in September. Of any event I have ever commanded, the Country Western Show presented the greatest difficulty due to the sheer volume of fans that were severely under the influence of alcohol. Thanks to the professionalism of the Sheriff Deputies assigned to the Transport vehicles and our Sergeants and Officers assigned to the booking compound, we were able to get through the night (and morning hours) with no significant injuries or incidents. Planning has already started for the show in 2010. A common thread at most events is that alcohol abuse is the fuel of impaired judgment and bad behavior. Policing Stadium crowds is a difficult task. Fans attending Stadium events bring noise, traffic congestion and unusual behaviors. This Department attempts to fashion our operational plans to reduce the impact of fan behaviors on our neighborhoods, and on other fans attending the event. Our primary goal is to have fans come to Foxborough, enjoy the game or event at Gillette Stadium, and go home safely. During football, Stadium Security and our Agency follow the "Best Practices Guide" created by the NFL and certified by Homeland Security. Thanks to the competence and professionalism of staff members and cooperation from Foxboro Fire Service and the State Police we have been able to achieve this goal on a regular basis.

### **ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT**

This section of the Department provides operational units with support and resources. It includes the Court Officer, Administrative Sergeant, and Police Secretary.

The Court Officer prepares officer's cases for review by the District Attorney's Office and the clerk of Courts office. In many situations the Court Officer meets with defendants and their legal representatives and is able to conclude criminal action without trials. This Officer also prepares for pre-trial hearings before a Judge prior to trial on evidence exclusions, as well as for motor vehicle citations that are contested before the Clerk Magistrate. The Court

Officer also presents evidence in Hearings held before the Clerk Magistrate prior to the issue of criminal complaints where as summons on warrant is requested. Our Department handles more cases than any of the eight other communities in our court district.

The Administrative Sergeant, besides acting as a Patrol Relief Supervisor, oversees the Department's records as well as manages our computer network. During this past year this Staff member has been a key player in the introduction of new technology into the Department.

The Police Secretary manages payroll for both the Police Department as well as the Central Dispatch service. She controls expenditures from department expense budgets and provides financial information to the Command staff. One of the more significant duties involves the payroll process for off regular duty work (details). The Secretary prepares payrolls, and then submits bills to businesses that have requested the additional service. From July 1<sup>st</sup> of 2009, through December 31<sup>st</sup>, this Agency has paid out 1,324,753 for work and collected 1,278,207 as of the 31<sup>st</sup>. Over the last 3 fiscal periods the Town has earned 321,333 in excess of costs.

During the past year, the department was awarded 3 different grants. From the Governor's Highway Safety Bureau \$11,200 was received to have directed patrols for enhanced traffic enforcement, managed by Deputy Chief John Chandler. A grant of \$20,000 was received from the Bureau of Justice Funding, managed by Sergeant Michael Grace, was used to standardize emergency equipment in the patrol vehicles. A grant was also received from the Safe Schools initiative to have programs presented in the Schools. This grant provided \$55,000 and was managed by the Chief's office.

During 2009 the Deputy Chief processed 72 firearms permits; 66 for Class A/B (pistols); and 6 for Firearms Identification. Each applicant for a Class A license (pistol permit) is interviewed by the Chief of Police as part of the licensing process.

Training is an important element in Law Enforcement. During the past year, Foxborough Staff attend the In-service program at the South Suburban Police Institute. This years' program has focused on law review, officer safety, emergency medical care, and firearms qualification. As part of this program, updates were provided on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault process. The Municipal Training Committee has authorized the use of on-line training, and staff has started taking courses on line

from both the FBI and the Massachusetts State Police. Each month recent case law is reviewed at roll calls; and officers receive Training Bulletins from the International Chiefs of Police on a variety of policing subjects. During early July all officers and reserves took use of force classes with recertification in Taser and Pepper Spray use; and qualified with their firearm.

During the year 3 staff members retired. Raymond Smith worked for the department since 1974 and opted to retire after 35 years of service. Jacklyn Cayer and Edward McDonald retired due to injuries received while members of the department. At this time, the vacancies created by retirement have not been replaced.

## CONCLUSION

This agency's goals for the coming year include:

- Making best use of our resources during this economic downturn.
- Using technology to enhance operational effectiveness
- Continuing our partnerships with community groups in preventing criminal activity and enhancing traffic safety
- Having a continuing emphasis on training with focus areas to include investigations, best practices and community policing

We will also be doing two community surveys, a general one for feedback; and a direct one for residents who have used our services directly.

A frank discussion also needs to be done concerning Staffing levels. The three current vacancies must be filled; and the department needs to go beyond that based on call analysis projections.